



# STIC Search Report

## EIC 3700

STIC Database Tracking Number: 196966

**TO: Nathan Durham**  
**Location: RND 7b61**  
**Art Unit: 3765**  
**Thursday, August 10, 2006**

**Case Serial Number: 10/822241**

**From: Ethel Leslie**  
**Location: EIC 3700**  
**RND 8A34**  
**Phone: 571-272-5992**

**Ethel.leslie@uspto.gov**

### Search Notes

Nathan,

Attached is the completed search for the locking mechanism for a coat hanger. I searched the inventors in the patent as well as non-patent literature and the results are included. I did an extensive search on the requested topic in a number of bibliographic and full-text databases as well as on the Internet. I found several items that I think might help you – they are marked with orange flags. One item looked particularly relevant and I have marked it with a blue flag and included a printout of the patent document from Espacenet.com. Please be sure to look over all the results as there may be other items of interest. I have attached the search strategies used for the searches performed.

I hope you find this search helpful. If you have a moment, please fill out the attached STIC Feedback Form. And, if there is anything I can do to refine or revise this search, please let me know.

Sincerely,  
Ethel Leslie



# STIC Search Results Feedback Form

**EIC 3700**

Questions about the scope or the results of the search? Contact *the EIC searcher or contact:*

**John Sims, EIC 3700 Team Leader**  
RND 8B35, Phone 2-3507

## Voluntary Results Feedback Form

➤ I am an examiner in Workgroup:  Example: 3730

➤ Relevant prior art **found**, search results used as follows:

- ☐ 102 rejection
- ☐ 103 rejection
- ☐ Cited as being of interest.
- ☐ Helped examiner better understand the invention.
- ☐ Helped examiner better understand the state of the art in their technology.

Types of relevant prior art found:

- ☐ Foreign Patent(s)
- ☐ Non-Patent Literature  
(journal articles, conference proceedings, new product announcements etc.)

➤ Relevant prior art **not found**:

- ☐ Results verified the lack of relevant prior art (helped determine patentability).
- ☐ Results were not useful in determining patentability or understanding the invention.

**Comments:**

Drop off or send completed forms to STIC/EIC3700 RND 8B31



Set	Items	Description
S1	1879	(THUMB? ? OR FINGER? ?) (3N) (WHEEL? ? OR SPINDLE? ? OR COGWHEEL? ? OR REEL? ? OR DIAL? ?) OR THUMBWHEEL?
S2	2622694	LOCK OR LOCKS OR LOCKED OR LOCKING OR SECURE? ? OR SECURING OR HOLD? ? OR HELD OR HOLDING
S3	135187	(PREVENT? OR STOP? ? OR STOPPING OR HINDER? OR PRECLUD? OR BLOCK? ? OR BLOCKING OR BLOCKED OR HALT? ? OR HALTING OR HALTED) (3N) (ROTATE? ? OR ROTATING OR ROTATION? OR TURN? ? OR TURNING OR TURNED OR ALTERATION? OR CHANGE? ? OR CHANGING)
S4	7174	(CLOTHES OR CLOTHING? OR COAT OR COATS OR GARMENT? OR ATTIRE? ? OR APPAREL? OR COSTUM??? OR BLOUSE OR BLOUSES OR SKIRT - OR SKIRTS OR DRESS??? OR PANTS OR TROUSERS OR SLACKS OR SUIT - OR SUITS) (3N) (HANGER? OR HANG? ? OR HANGED OR HUNG OR HOLDER?) OR COATHANG
S5	165187	(SPRING? ? OR COIL? ? OR COILED OR COILING) (3N) (LOAD? ? OR LOADING OR LOADED OR COMPRESS?) OR FRICTION? (3N) ASSIST?
S6	229515	IC=(A41D? OR A41B? OR A41H? OR G09F?)
S7	170	S1(5N)S2
S8	1	S7 AND S3 AND S4 AND S5
S9	1	S7 AND S4 AND S5
S10	0	S9 NOT S8
S11	1	S1 AND S2:S3 AND S4 AND S5
S12	0	S11 NOT S8
S13	1	S7 AND S3 AND S4
S14	0	S13 NOT S8
S15	1	S1 AND S4
S16	1	S7 AND S3 AND S5
S17	0	S16 NOT S8
S18	737185	WHEEL? ? OR SPINDLE? ? OR COGWHEEL? OR REEL? ? OR DIAL? ?
S19	240	S18 AND S4
S20	3	S18 AND S4 AND S2:S3 AND S5
S21	2	S20 NOT S8
S22	47015	S2(5N)S18
S23	15	S22 AND S4
S24	14	S23 NOT (S8 OR S21)
S25	0	S24 AND S6
S26	193	S22 AND S3 AND S5
S27	1	(S26 NOT (S8 OR S21 OR S24) AND S6)
S28	14585	S2(5N)S5
S29	15	S28 AND S4
S30	14	S29 NOT (S8 OR S21 OR S24 OR S27)
S31	3	S30 AND S6
S32	11	S30 NOT S31
S33	123	S28 AND S18 AND S3
S34	0	(S33 NOT (S8 OR S21 OR S24 OR S27 OR S30) AND S6)
S35	57	S28(S)S18(S)S3
S36	56	S35 NOT (S8 OR S21 OR S24 OR S27 OR S30)
S37	408388	CLOTHES OR CLOTHING? OR COAT OR COATS OR GARMENT? OR ATTIRE? ? OR APPAREL? OR COSTUM??? OR BLOUSE OR BLOUSES OR SKIRT OR SKIRTS OR DRESS??? OR PANTS OR TROUSERS OR SLACKS OR SUIT OR SUITS
S38	3	(S26 OR S33) AND S37
S39	352	S3(5N)S5
S40	1	S39 AND S37
S41	439200	COUNT? ? OR COUNTER? ? OR INDICIA
S42	7	S41 AND S18 AND S4
S43	6	S42 NOT (S8 OR S21 OR S24 OR S27 OR S30 OR S38 OR S40)
S44	6	S41 AND S18 AND (S7 OR S28) AND S3
S45	5	S44 NOT (S8 OR S21 OR S24 OR S27 OR S30 OR S38 OR S40 OR S-43)
S46	562	S41(5N)S37

S47            5    S46 AND S18 AND S2:S3  
S48            0    S44 NOT (S8 OR S21 OR S24 OR S27 OR S30 OR S38 OR S40 OR S-  
                 43 OR S45)

File 347:JAPIO Dec 1976-2005/Dec(Updated 060404)

(c) 2006 JPO & JAPIO

File 350:Derwent WPIX 1963-2006/UD=200651

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8/5/1 (Item 1 from file: 350)  
DIALOG(R)File 350:Derwent WPIX  
(c) 2006 The Thomson Corporation. All rts. reserv.

0015333295 - Drawing available

WPI ACC NO: 2005-683547/200570

XRPX Acc No: N2005-560739

Hanger system for clothing , has plastic tab with printed label indicia to indicate details of clothing such as last cleaned date, number of timed worn, and last worn date by rotating plastic spindles or thumb wheels

Patent Assignee: RUSSO S (RUSS-I)

Inventor: RUSSO S

Patent Family (1 patents, 1 countries)

Patent Number	Kind	Date	Application Number	Kind	Date	Update
US 20050224532	A1	20051013	US 2004822241	A	20040409	200570 B

Priority Applications (no., kind, date): US 2004822241 A 20040409

#### Patent Details

Number	Kind	Lan	Pg	Dwg	Filing Notes
US 20050224532	A1	EN	5	1	

#### Alerting Abstract US A1

NOVELTY - The hanger system (10) has a plastic tab (11) with printed label indicia (12) to indicate the details of clothing such as last cleaned date, number of timed worn, and last worn date by rotating the plastic spindles or thumb wheels . The thumb wheel are provided with locking mechanism to prevent accidental alteration of the selected indicia.

USE - For clothing.

ADVANTAGE - Prevents accidental alteration of the selected indicia by locking the rotation of the thumb wheels . Prevents damage of the clothing hung on the hanger . Prevents discoloration or degradation of the recording information by constructing the indicating indicia with moisture-resistant and rust-proof material. Reduces the manufacturing cost of the hanger system.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS - The figure shows a schematic view of the hanger system.

- 10 hanger system
- 11 plastic tab
- 12 printed label indicia
- 14 indicia

Title Terms/Index Terms/Additional Words: HANGER; SYSTEM; CLOTHING; PLASTIC ; TAB; PRINT; LABEL; INDICIA; INDICATE; DETAIL; LAST; CLEAN; DATE; NUMBER ; TIME; WEAR; ROTATING; SPINDLE; THUMB; WHEEL

#### Class Codes

International Classification (Main): A41D-027/22

US Classification, Issued: 223085000

File Segment: EngPI; ;

DWPI Class: P21

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24/5/1 (Item 1 from file: 347)  
DIALOG(R)File 347:JAPIO  
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08148656 \*\*Image available\*\*  
**HANGER FOR CLOTHING**

PUB. NO.: 2004-261416 [JP 2004261416 A]  
PUBLISHED: September 24, 2004 (20040924)  
INVENTOR(s): SATO MANABU  
APPLICANT(s): SATO MANABU  
APPL. NO.: 2003-055281 [JP 200355281]  
FILED: March 03, 2003 (20030303)  
INTL CLASS: A47G-025/28; A47G-025/40

ABSTRACT

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a **hanger** for **clothing** easily and efficiently hanging/removing the clothing and having convenience in carrying.

SOLUTION: Arms 104 and 105 are attached with ratchet wheels 111 and 112 having the same shape. The ratchet wheels 111 and 112 are journaled to a base part 102 by shafts 114 and 115 respectively and externally contacting and engaged with each other. A click 121 is provided inside the base part 102. When the arms 104 and 105 are closed, the click 121 **locks** the ratchet **wheel** 112 and, when the arms 104 and 105 are opened, it releases the lock state.

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24/5/3 (Item 1 from file: 350)  
DIALOG(R)File 350:Derwent WPIX  
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0015258696 - Drawing available  
WPI ACC NO: 2005-608795/200563  
XRAM Acc No: C2005-183468

**Hanger for suspending washed clothes , has V-shaped securing arm and pair of rope clamping arms that press-contact large and small diameter pole receiving surfaces of synthetic resin-made hook portion, respectively**

Patent Assignee: SAJI SEISAKUSHO YG (SAJI-N)

Inventor: SAJI M

**Patent Family** (1 patents, 1 countries)

Patent Number	Kind	Date	Application Number	Kind	Date	Update
JP 2005218625	A	20050818	JP 200429309	A	20040205	200563 B

Priority Applications (no., kind, date): JP 200429309 A 20040205

**Patent Details**

Number	Kind	Lan	Pg	Dwg	Filing Notes
JP 2005218625	A	JA	12	14	

**Alerting Abstract JP A**

NOVELTY - A synthetic resin-made hook portion (2) has a large diameter pole receiving surface (w) formed at its free end (2b), that is press-contacted by a V-shaped **securing** arm (3) rotating freely at **spindle** center. A pair of rope clamping arms (40,41) projecting from the

inner surfaces of respective fixed end (2a) and free end (2b) of the hook portion, press-contact small diameter pole receiving surface (y) of the hook portion.

USE - For suspending washed clothes on pole or rope.

ADVANTAGE - Enables latching the large diameter pole, small diameter pole and rope reliably, using simple structure.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS - The figure shows a front view of a hook portion of the hanger.

2 hook portion

2a fixed end

2b free end

3 securing arm

4 rope securing portion

40,41 rope clamping arms

w large diameter pole receiving surface

y small diameter pole receiving surface

**Title Terms/Index Terms/Additional Words:** HANGER; SUSPENSION; WASHING; CLOTHING; SHAPE; SECURE; ARM; PAIR; ROPE; CLAMP; PRESS; CONTACT; DIAMETER; POLE; RECEIVE; SURFACE; SYNTHETIC; RESIN; MADE; HOOK; PORTION; RESPECTIVE

#### **Class Codes**

International Classification (Main): D06F-057/00

File Segment: CPI

DWPI Class: F07

Manual Codes (CPI/A-M): F03-J01

**24/5/4 (Item 2 from file: 350)**

DIALOG(R)File 350:Derwent WPIX

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0014300397 - Drawing available

WPI ACC NO: 2004-487278/200446

Related WPI Acc No: 2003-139762; 2004-375064; 2005-151766

XRPX Acc No: N2004-384407

**Holding device for retaining reel and reel seat assembly on fisherman belt has waist holder having holder base which can be removably engaged on fisherman belt and releasably mounts hollow cylinder for retaining reel and reel seat**

Patent Assignee: BORGAT L (BORG-I)

Inventor: BORGAT L

**Patent Family** (1 patents, 1 countries)

Patent Number	Kind	Date	Application Number	Kind	Date	Update
US 20040123509	A1	20040701	US 2001882092	A	20010618	200446 B
			US 2003660519	A	20030912	

Priority Applications (no., kind, date): US 2001882092 A 20010618; US 2003660519 A 20030912

#### **Patent Details**

Number	Kind	Lan	Pg	Dwg	Filing Notes
US 20040123509	A1	EN	11	5	Continuation of application US 2001882092

**Alerting Abstract** US A1

NOVELTY - The holding device includes a hollow cylinder (80), which

retains a reel and a reel seat assembly which are detached from a fly fishing rod. A waist holder (12) releasably mounts the cylinder through a holder base (56), which can be removably engaged on a fisherman belt (66).

DESCRIPTION - INDEPENDENT CLAIMS are also included for the following:

1.a hollow cylinder for holding reel and reel seat; and

2.a waist holder.

USE - For retaining reel and reel seat assembly on fisherman belt.

ADVANTAGE - Allows a fisherman to use a desired rod at any time to detach reel seat and reel. Allows rapid, free recast of fisherman with desired rod since small portion of line is reeled and wound regardless of length of line. Provides inexpensive waist holder with long service life and relatively trouble free in operation.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS - The figure shows the perspective views of a waist holder and a hollow cylinder on waist holder.

12 Waist holder

56 Holder base

66 Fisherman belt

70 Groove

80 Hollow cylinder

**Title Terms/Index Terms/Additional Words:** HOLD; DEVICE; RETAIN; REEL; SEAT; ASSEMBLE; FISHERMAN; BELT; WAIST; BASE; CAN; REMOVE; ENGAGE; RELEASE; MOUNT; HOLLOW; CYLINDER

#### **Class Codes**

International Classification (Main): A01K-097/10

US Classification, Issued: 043021200

File Segment: EngPI; ;

DWPI Class: P14

24/5/5 (Item 3 from file: 350)

DIALOG(R)File 350:Derwent WPIX

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0009433824 - Drawing available

WPI ACC NO: 1999-372312/

XRAM Acc No: C1999-110094

XRFX Acc No: N1999-277734

#### **Skirt hem trimming apparatus**

Patent Assignee: CHINA TEXTILE INST (CHTE-N)

Inventor: LIN Y; PENG H

**Patent Family** (1 patents, 1 countries)

Patent Application

Number	Kind	Date	Number	Kind	Date	Update
DE 19757934	A1	19990701	DE 19757934	A	19971227	199932 B

Priority Applications (no., kind, date): DE 19757934 A 19971227

#### **Patent Details**

Number	Kind	Lan	Pg	Dwg	Filing Notes
DE 19757934	A1	DE	11	6	

#### **Alerting Abstract DE A1**

NOVELTY - The apparatus (100) to trim a skirt hem has a cutting unit (10) with a circular cutter rotated by a drive for cutting at the skirt hem. The movement system for the cutter has a hand wheel (14), linked to the cutter



by a spindle, to move the cutter in relation to the skirt.

DESCRIPTION - A hem support has a support roller, moved by a pneumatic mechanism, and presented to the cutter so that the skirt is held firmly between the support roller and cutter when the cutter is moved on the support roller and pressed against it. A skirt holding system (30) has a vertical rod (352) supporting a cone (353) at the top, to support the **skirt** while the hem **hangs** down between the cutter and the support roller. A spreader, with a circular section, is coaxial to the rod (352), to be spread out according to the skirt width. The spreader has a full rotation of 360(deg) through a drive motor (36) so that the skirt hem is cut. The hand wheel (14) for the cutting mechanism (10) is at a side of the housing, and has a **spindle held** in the housing by a bearing pedestal. The far end of the spindle engages the plate to move the cutter. The pneumatic system for the hem support has a pneumatic cylinder. The second hand wheel (33), for the **skirt holder** system (30), has a spindle (331) passing through a supporting bearing pedestal (332) and into the inner threading section (312) of the lower part (31) of the system, so that the lower part (31) moves along guide rails (32) on rotation of the hand wheel (33). The rod (352) of the **skirt holder** (30) has teeth (354) along the rod surface to form a rack. The height setting system (300) has a gearing to engage the teeth (354), operated by a third hand wheel to move the rod (352) in relation to a tubular section (351). The second drive (36), for the **skirt holder** system (30), has a spindle with a pinion (362) to engage a reduction gearing (363) at the tubular section (351), so that the drive (36) rotates the tubular section (351) and rod (352). The spreader has a center section (370) with a hub pushed over the tubular section (351) coaxial and rotating with it. The upper and lower side of the center section (370) each have two spaced guide channels with their open sides towards each other and aligned in different directions at the upper and lower sides and at right angles to each other. The teeth of the racks (374) are at the guide channels and engage in a pinion aligned coaxially to the holder system rod (352), and can be rotated to move the racks (374) in relation to the guide channels. The circular section of the spreader has four curved sections (373) to define the circumference, each as one-quarter of the circle, attached to a rack (374) within the guide channels. The racks (374) extend in the direction of the radius of the circular section so that, on rotation of the pinion, the racks (374) are given a radial movement in relation to the center section (370) to increase or reduce the diameter of the unit through the shifts of the four segments. Each of the curved segments (373) has two opposing curved ends with a slit over part of the peripheral length, to hold an end of an elastic bridge overlapping adjacent segments to bond them together at one end, and their other ends can be released from each other when the racks (374) give the segments (373) a radial movement. The hand wheel (38) to set the diameter and circumference has a hub which is pushed coaxially over the tubular section (351), and has the pinion to engage the racks (374) of the spreader (37). The pinion is rotated to give the racks (374) a radial movement in relation to the center section (370) of the spreader (37).

USE - The apparatus is for trimming a skirt hem.

ADVANTAGE - The apparatus has an automatic action to trim the skirt hem cleanly and on a straight line, efficiently and precisely.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS - The drawing shows a perspective view of the apparatus.

- 10 Cutting unit
- 14,38 Hand wheel
- 30 **Skirt holder** system
- 31 Lower part of the holder
- 32 Guide rails
- 36 Motor
- 37 Spreader
- 100 Skirt hem trimming apparatus

300 Height setting system  
312 Inner threading section  
331 Spindle  
332 Bearing pedestal  
351 Tubular section  
352 Rod  
353 Cone  
354 Teeth  
362 Pinion  
363 Gearing  
370 Spreader center section  
373 Curved segments  
374 Racks

**Title Terms/Index Terms/Additional Words:** SKIRT; HEM; TRIM; APPARATUS

**Class Codes**

International Classification (Main): D06H-007/00  
(Additional/Secondary): B26D-001/14, B26D-005/04, B26D-007/01, B26D-007/20  
, B26D-007/26

File Segment: CPI; EngPI; EPI  
DWPI Class: F07; X25; X27; P62  
Manual Codes (EPI/S-X): X25-T; X27-A02B1  
Manual Codes (CPI/A-M): F03-K03; F04-C03

**24/5/7 (Item 5 from file: 350)**

DIALOG(R)File 350:Derwent WPIX

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0008189011 - Drawing available

WPI ACC NO: 1997-292565/

XRPX Acc No: N1997-241979

**Open-close type hanger for clothes - has holding part which intersects spindle and is provided between body and spindle**

Patent Assignee: MAEJIMA Y (MAEJ-I)

Inventor: MAEJIMA Y

**Patent Family** (1 patents, 1 countries)

Patent		Application				
Number	Kind	Date	Number	Kind	Date	Update
JP 9108090	A	19970428	JP 1995297462	A	19951020	199727 B

Priority Applications (no., kind, date): JP 1995297462 A 19951020

**Patent Details**

Number	Kind	Lan	Pg	Dwg	Filing Notes
JP 9108090	A	JA	4	7	

**Alerting Abstract JP A**

The hanger has a pair of hook rods (11,12) for hanging clothes supported at the right and left of a body (10). An elastic part (14) energizes a spindle (13) for opening the pair of hook rods along the left and right direction.

A **holding** part (15) which intersects the **spindle** is provided between the body and the spindle.

ADVANTAGE - Opens and closes hanger by one-touch operation.

**Title Terms/Index Terms/Additional Words:** OPEN; CLOSE; TYPE; HANGER; CLOTHING; HOLD; PART; INTERSECT; SPINDLE; BODY

**Class Codes**

International Classification (Main): A47G-025/40

File Segment: EngPI; ;

DWPI Class: P27

24/5/9 (Item 7 from file: 350)

DIALOG(R)File 350:Derwent WPIX

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0007633138 - Drawing available

WPI ACC NO: 1996-251820/

XRPX Acc No: N1996-211550

**Security garment hanger for preventing theft or shop lifting - has central portion with hook and lockable pivoting closure member which also operates garment clamping device between two hanging arm**

Patent Assignee: MAYER G J (MAYE-I); UNTERWURZACHER E J (UNTE-I); WEISLER T A (WEIS-I)

Inventor: HOOORTH A J; MAYER G J

**Patent Family** (5 patents, 66 countries)

Patent Number	Kind	Date	Application Number	Kind	Date	Update
WO 1996014487	A1	19960517	WO 1995AU732	A	19951103	199625 B
AU 199537673	A	19960531	AU 199537673	A	19951103	199639 E
			WO 1995AU732	A	19951103	
EP 789804	A1	19970820	EP 1995935772	A	19951103	199738 E
			WO 1995AU732	A	19951103	
US 5823407	A	19981020	WO 1995AU732	A	19951103	199849 E
			US 1997836676	A	19970430	
AU 701925	B	19990211	AU 199537673	A	19951103	199918 E

Priority Applications (no., kind, date): AU 19949270 A 19941104

**Patent Details**

Number	Kind	Lan	Pg	Dwg	Filing Notes
WO 1996014487	A1	EN	23	13	
National Designated States,Original: AL AM AT AU BB BG BR BY CA CH CN CZ DE DK EE ES FI GB GE HU IS JP KE KG KP KR KZ LK LR LS LT LU LV MD MG MK MN MW MX NO NZ PL PT RO RU SD SE SG SI SK TJ TM TT UA UG US UZ VN					
Regional Designated States,Original: AT BE CH DE DK ES FR GB GR IE IT KE LS LU MC MW NL OA PT SD SE SZ UG					
AU 199537673	A	EN			PCT Application WO 1995AU732
					Based on OPI patent WO 1996014487
EP 789804	A1	EN			PCT Application WO 1995AU732
					Based on OPI patent WO 1996014487
Regional Designated States,Original: DE FR GB IT					
US 5823407	A	EN			PCT Application WO 1995AU732
					Based on OPI patent WO 1996014487
AU 701925	B	EN			Previously issued patent AU 9537673

Based on OPI patent WO 1996014487

**Alerting Abstract WO A1**

The **garment hanger** (2) has a central suspension hook (14) and two shoulders (6,8) connected by a web and a lower rail (10). The hook (14) is lockable on a hanging rail (30) by a rotatable closure member (18) with integral sleeve pivoted on an inclined axis combination **lock** (40) having index **wheels** (42).

A garment clamping device (22) comprises a fixed convex neoprene lined

clamping pad (26) integral with the web of the shoulder structure (8), and a movable clamping pad (24) of complementary shape and size, on an arm fixed below the lock (42). The pad (24) is rotated to the clamping position by a cam on the lower side of the closure member (18).

ADVANTAGE - Provides a substantial degree of security against theft from shops or in storage or transport. The lock releases the garment from both the hanging rail and from the hanger clamp. Simple action, and cheap to manufacture.

**Title Terms/Index Terms/Additional Words:** SECURE; GARMENT; HANGER; PREVENT; THEFT; SHOP; LIFT; CENTRAL; PORTION; HOOK; LOCK; PIVOT; CLOSURE; MEMBER; OPERATE; CLAMP; DEVICE; TWO; HANG; ARM

**Class Codes**

International Classification (Main): A47G-025/14, E05B-069/00

(Additional/Secondary): E05B-069/02

US Classification, Issued: 223085000, 223093000, 070059000, 070062000

File Segment: EngPI; ;

DWPI Class: P27; Q47

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27/5/1 (Item 1 from file: 350)  
DIALOG(R) File 350:Derwent WPIX  
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0001166439

WPI ACC NO: 1976-F1435X/

**Plastic score counter with rotating indicator dial - has radial locking grooves to prevent accidental dial rotation**

Patent Assignee: CECCHETTI C (CECC-I)

Patent Family (1 patents, 1 countries)

Patent

Application

Number	Kind	Date	Number	Kind	Date	Update
CH 574744	A	19760430	CH 197414444	A	19741025	197623 B

#### Patent Details

Number	Kind	Lan	Pg	Dwg	Filing Notes
CH 574744	A	DE			

#### Alerting Abstract CH A

A score counter (2) made from plastic, has radial locking grooves on the round cup shaped dial (4) to prevent accidental operation of the counter. Along its edge, the dial has radial teeth to prevent slip when it is operated by finger pressure through a window (3) in the body (2). The locking grooves are axially pressed against a web (12) in the counter body (2) by a **compression spring**. This **spring** pressure has to be overcome when the indicator dial is being rotated for changing the score.

**Title Terms/Index Terms/Additional Words:** PLASTIC; SCORE; COUNTER; ROTATING ; INDICATE; DIAL; RADIAL; LOCK; GROOVE; PREVENT; ACCIDENT

#### Class Codes

(Additional/Secondary): A63B-071/06, A63D-015/20, **G09F-009/00**

File Segment: EngPI; ;

DWPI Class: P36; P85

?

**CH574744**

**Publication number:** CH574744

**Publication date:** 1976-04-30

**Inventor:**

**Applicant:** CECCHETTI CLAUDIO

**Classification:**

**- international:** **A63B71/06; A63D15/20; A63B71/06; A63D15/00;**  
(IPC1-7): A63B71/06; A63D15/20; G09F9/00

**- european:** A63B71/06M; A63D15/20

**Application number:** CH19740014444 19741025

**Priority number(s):** CH19740014444 19741025

**Report a data error here**

Abstract not available for CH574744

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31/5/2 (Item 2 from file: 350)

DIALOG(R)File 350:Derwent WPIX

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0007908983 - Drawing available

WPI ACC NO: 1996-443085/199644

XRPX Acc No: N1996-373123

**Product carrier for internal transport and treatment of garments particularly laundries - has garments hung -up on hanger in station having product carrier carried forward on rail or like to different washing stations for removal**

Patent Assignee: METRIC INTERCONVEYOR AB (METR-N)

Inventor: HANSEN A L; NEUGEBAUER K

**Patent Family** (11 patents, 68 countries)

Patent Number	Kind	Date	Application Number	Kind	Date	Update
WO 1996029267	A1	19960926	WO 1996SE338	A	19960318	199644 B
SE 199500980	A	19960922	SE 1995980	A	19950321	199649 E
AU 199651303	A	19961008	AU 199651303	A	19960318	199704 E
EP 815043	A1	19980107	EP 1996907840	A	19960318	199806 E
			WO 1996SE338	A	19960318	
AU 698292	B	19981029	AU 199651303	A	19960318	199904 E
EP 815043	B1	19990113	EP 1996907840	A	19960318	199907 E
			WO 1996SE338	A	19960318	
DE 69601358	E	19990225	DE 69601358	A	19960318	199914 E
			EP 1996907840	A	19960318	
			WO 1996SE338	A	19960318	
JP 11502183	W	19990223	JP 1996528331	A	19960318	199918 E
			WO 1996SE338	A	19960318	
ES 2128165	T3	19990501	EP 1996907840	A	19960318	199924 E
US 5897004	A	19990427	WO 1996SE338	A	19960318	199924 E
			US 1998913607	A	19980107	
SE 512991	C2	20000613	SE 1995980	A	19950321	200035 E

Priority Applications (no., kind, date): SE 1995980 A 19950321

#### Patent Details

Number	Kind	Lan	Pg	Dwg	Filing Notes
WO 1996029267	A1	EN	18	3	
National Designated States,Original: AL AM AT AU AZ BB BG BR BY CA CH CN CZ DE DK EE ES FI GB GE HU IS JP KE KG KP KR KZ LK LR LS LT LU LV MD MG MK MN MW MX NO NZ PL PT RO RU SD SE SG SI SK TJ TM TR TT UA UG US UZ VN					
Regional Designated States,Original: AT BE CH DE DK EA ES FI FR GB GR IE IT KE LS LU MC MW NL OA PT SD SE SZ UG					
SE 199500980	A	SV			
AU 199651303	A	EN			Based on OPI patent WO 1996029267
EP 815043	A1	EN			PCT Application WO 1996SE338
					Based on OPI patent WO 1996029267
Regional Designated States,Original: AT BE CH DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI NL PT SE					
AU 698292	B	EN			Previously issued patent AU 9651303
EP 815043	B1	EN			Based on OPI patent WO 1996029267
					PCT Application WO 1996SE338
					Based on OPI patent WO 1996029267
Regional Designated States,Original: AT BE CH DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI NL PT SE					
DE 69601358	E	DE			Application EP 1996907840
					PCT Application WO 1996SE338
					Based on OPI patent EP 815043
					Based on OPI patent WO 1996029267

JP 11502183      W    JA      20      PCT Application WO 1996SE338  
 Based on OPI patent WO 1996029267  
 ES 2128165      T3    ES      Application EP 1996907840  
 Based on OPI patent EP 815043  
 US 5897004      A    EN      PCT Application WO 1996SE338  
 Based on OPI patent WO 1996029267  
 SE 512991      C2    SV

**Alerting Abstract WO A1**

The fastening device (3) consists of two disc-shaped elements (12,13) united at their upper parts and forming the slot (25) at their lower parts.

The lock (17) is pivotably mounted in one of the disc-shaped elements (13) at its lower part and has an oblique surface (26) inwardly towards the slot (25) against which surface (26) the hanger hook (27) is intended to slide during the insertion thereof and push the lock (17) inward/backward. The oblique surface (26) transforms into a 'shelf' (28) intended to carry the hanger hook (27) after insertion.

ADVANTAGE - Provides automatic method and automatic arrangement for carrying out

ADVANTAGE - operations.

**Title Terms/Index Terms/Additional Words:** PRODUCT; CARRY; INTERNAL; TRANSPORT; TREAT; GARMENT; LAUNDER; HUNG; UP; HANGER; STATION; FORWARD; RAIL; WASHING; REMOVE

**Class Codes**

International Classification (Main): **A41H-043/02** , A47F-005/00, B65G-047/61, B65G-009/00  
 (Additional/Secondary): B65G-047/04, B65G-047/38, B65G-047/46  
 US Classification, Issued: 211162000, 211113000

File Segment: EngPI; ;  
 DWPI Class: P21; P27; Q35

**31/5/3      (Item 3 from file: 350)**

DIALOG(R)File 350:Derwent WPIX

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0001835941

WPI ACC NO: 1979-J1762B/

**Clothes hanger with central tubular part - in which slide two end pieces, with compression spring, stop and locking pieces**

Patent Assignee: KARNER & CO AB (KARN-N)

Inventor: KARNER F

**Patent Family** (10 patents, 8 countries)

Patent Number	Kind	Date	Application Number	Kind	Date	Update
BE 876176	A	19790903				197939 B
DE 2918368	A	19791115	DE 2918368	A	19790507	197947 E
NL 197903491	A	19791113				197948 E
GB 2021402	A	19791205				197949 E
SE 197805391	A	19791210				198001 E
FR 2425222	A	19800111				198008 E
CA 1104533	A	19810707				198136 E
US 4391395	A	19830705	US 1981315303	A	19811023	198329 E
DE 2918368	C	19831020	DE 2918368	A	19790507	198343 E
NL 179108	B	19860217				198613 E

Priority Applications (no., kind, date): SE 19785391 A 19780511



**Patent Details**

Number	Kind	Lan	Pg	Dwg	Filing	Notes
BE 876176	A	FR				
SE 197805391	A	SV				
CA 1104533	A	EN				

**Alerting Abstract BE A**

The **clothes hanger** consists of a tubular central part (2) on which is a hook (3). One at least of two end pieces (1) is able to slide telescopically inside the central part (2) between an inner and outer position. The outer ends of the two end pieces (1) comprise grips (15) for holding the article of clothing.

A compression spring (4) is positioned between a thrust piece (8) inside the central portion (2) and the sliding end piece (1) which is joined to a locking spiece (5). The locking piece (5) slides inside a slot (14) in the underneath part of the central part (2) and is in the form of a flexible tongue (5).

**Title Terms/Index Terms/Additional Words:** CLOTHING; HANGER; CENTRAL; TUBE; PART; SLIDE; TWO; END; PIECE; COMPRESS; SPRING; STOP; LOCK

**Class Codes**

International Classification (Main): **A41D-027/22**

(Additional/Secondary): A47G-025/48, A47J-051/18

US Classification, Issued: 223094000

File Segment: EngPI; ;

DWPI Class: P21; P27; P28

?

43/5/1 (Item 1 from file: 350)  
DIALOG(R)File 350:Derwent WPIX  
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0012247560 - Drawing available

WPI ACC NO: 2002-187362/

XRPX Acc No: N2002-142017

**Cleaner counter for maintaining dry cleaning count , has indexing mechanism for indexed engagement of turn- dial indicator with base of integral tag stem**

Patent Assignee: VILLARAUT S (VILL-I)

Inventor: VILLARAUT S

**Patent Family** (1 patents, 1 countries)

Patent Number	Kind	Date	Application Number	Kind	Date	Update
US 6330969	B1	20011218	US 1999143376	P	19990712	200224 B
			US 2000614292	A	20000712	

Priority Applications (no., kind, date): US 1999143376 P 19990712; US 2000614292 A 20000712

#### Patent Details

Number	Kind	Lan	Pg	Dwg	Filing Notes
US 6330969	B1	EN	10	8	Related to Provisional US 1999143376

**Alerting Abstract** US B1

NOVELTY - A turn- **dial** indicator (12) is rotatably mounted on a base of an integral tag stem (20) which has an attachment section for hanging the cleaner calculator and a promotional label area (22). An indexing mechanism is provided for indexed engagement of the indicator with the base section. The calculator **counts** the number of times a garment has been worn between dry cleanings.

USE - For maintaining a dry cleaning **count** to determine when a garment is ready to be returned to the dry cleaner.

ADVANTAGE - The cleaner **counter** is adapted to be **hung** on a standard **clothes hanger** and is simple and inexpensive.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS - The figure shows a perspective view of the cleaner calculator.

- 12 Turn- **dial** indicator
- 20 Integral tag stem
- 22 Promotional label area

**Title Terms/Index Terms/Additional Words:** CLEAN; **COUNTER** ; MAINTAIN; DRY; **COUNT** ; INDEX; MECHANISM; ENGAGE; TURN; **DIAL** ; INDICATE; BASE; INTEGRAL; TAG; STEM

#### Class Codes

International Classification (Main): G06C-003/00

US Classification, Issued: 235064700, 235375000

File Segment: EPI;

DWPI Class: T01; T05

Manual Codes (EPI/S-X): T01-A; T05-B

43/5/6 (Item 6 from file: 350)  
DIALOG(R)File 350:Derwent WPIX  
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0001182041

WPI ACC NO: 1976-G7450X/

Costume jewelry hung round wearers neck - has circular dial with signs of zodiac and knob for turning dial so that desired sign is uppermost

Patent Assignee: CARL-ART INC (CARL-N)

Inventor: WILLIAMS F E

Patent Family (1 patents, 1 countries)

Patent Number	Kind	Date	Application Number	Kind	Date	Update
US 3968661	A	19760713	US 1974508268	A	19740923	197630 B

Priority Applications (no., kind, date): US 1974508268 A 19740923

#### Alerting Abstract US A

An articles of costume jewelry comprises a flat rigid generally circular back plate, a generally circular front disc rotatably mounted on the back plate, and means on the front surface of the disc defining of substantially equal sections located adjacent the outer periphery of the disc. Each section has a different form of ornamentation section has a different form of ornamentation, and indicating means are fixedly carried by the back plate and have a portion located adjacent the periphery of the disc. The portion correspond generally to the outer peripheral width of the sections. The disc may be manually rotated until a desired section is in alignment with the indicating means, which comprise a reversely bent, integral extension of the back plate. There are means fixedly secured to the top of the indicating means for receiving a neck chain.

**Title Terms/Index Terms/Additional Words:** COSTUME; JEWEL; HUNG; ROUND; WEAR ; NECK; CIRCULAR; **DIAL** ; SIGN; KNOB; TURN; SO; UPPER

#### Class Codes

(Additional/Secondary): A44C-025/00

US Classification, Issued: 063031000, 063020000

File Segment: EngPI; ;

DWPI Class: P23

?

Set	Items	Description
S1	113	(THUMB? ? OR FINGER? ?) (3N) (WHEEL? ? OR SPINDLE? ? OR COGWHEEL? ? OR REEL? ? OR DIAL? ?) OR THUMBWHEEL?
S2	1653192	LOCK OR LOCKS OR LOCKED OR LOCKING OR SECURE? ? OR SECURING OR HOLD? ? OR HELD OR HOLDING
S3	11885	(PREVENT? OR STOP? ? OR STOPPING OR HINDER? OR PRECLUDE? OR BLOCK? ? OR BLOCKING OR BLOCKED OR HALT? ? OR HALTING OR HALTED) (3N) (ROTATE? ? OR ROTATING OR ROTATION? OR TURN? ? OR TURNING OR TURNED OR ALTERATION? OR CHANGE? ? OR CHANGING)
S4	2112	(CLOTHES OR CLOTHING? OR COAT OR COATS OR GARMENT? OR ATTIRE? ? OR APPAREL? OR COSTUM??? OR BLOUSE OR BLOUSES OR SKIRT - OR SKIRTS OR DRESS??? OR PANTS OR TROUSERS OR SLACKS OR SUIT - OR SUITS) (3N) (HANGER? OR HANG? ? OR HANGED OR HUNG OR HOLDER?) OR COATHANG
S5	2767	(SPRING? ? OR COIL? ? OR COILED OR COILING) (3N) (LOAD? ? OR LOADING OR LOADED OR COMPRESS?) OR FRICTION? (3N) ASSIST?
S6	0	S1 AND S2:S3 AND S4 AND S5
S7	192503	WHEEL? ? OR SPINDLE? ? OR COGWHEEL? OR REEL? ? OR DIAL? ?
S8	0	S7 AND S2:S3 AND S4 AND S5
S9	3	S7 AND S2:S3 AND S4
S10	549854	CLOTHES OR CLOTHING? OR COAT OR COATS OR GARMENT? OR ATTIRE? ? OR APPAREL? OR COSTUM??? OR BLOUSE OR BLOUSES OR SKIRT OR SKIRTS OR DRESS??? OR PANTS OR TROUSERS OR SLACKS OR SUIT OR SUITS
S11	292	S7 AND S2:S3 AND S10
S12	0	S7 AND S2:S3 AND S10 AND S5
S13	1	S7 AND S2 AND S3 AND S10
S14	1	S13 NOT S9
S15	2	S1 AND S2:S3 AND S10
S16	2	S15 NOT (S9 OR S14)

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File 248:PIRA 1975-2006/Jul W4  
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File 323:RAPRA Rubber & Plastics 1972-2006/Jul  
(c) 2006 RAPRA Technology Ltd

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File 67:World Textiles 1968-2006/Aug  
(c) 2006 Elsevier B.V.

File 65:Inside Conferences 1993-2006/Aug 10  
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Set	Items	Description
S1	3257	(THUMB? ? OR FINGER? ?) (3N) (WHEEL? ? OR SPINDLE? ? OR COGWHEEL? ? OR REEL? ? OR DIAL? ?) OR THUMBWHEEL?
S2	11532083	LOCK OR LOCKS OR LOCKED OR LOCKING OR SECURE? ? OR SECURING OR HOLD? ? OR HELD OR HOLDING
S3	69725	(PREVENT? OR STOP? ? OR STOPPING OR HINDER? OR PRECLUDE? OR BLOCK? ? OR BLOCKING OR BLOCKED OR HALT? ? OR HALTING OR HALTED) (3N) (ROTATE? ? OR ROTATING OR ROTATION? OR TURN? ? OR TURNING OR TURNED OR ALTERATION? OR CHANGE? ? OR CHANGING)
S4	11370	(CLOTHES OR CLOTHING? OR COAT OR COATS OR GARMENT? OR ATTIRE? ? OR APPAREL? OR COSTUM??? OR BLOUSE OR BLOUSES OR SKIRT - OR SKIRTS OR DRESS??? OR PANTS OR TROUSERS OR SLACKS OR SUIT - OR SUITS) (3N) (HANGER? OR HANG? ? OR HANGED OR HUNG OR HOLDER?) OR COATHANG
S5	16199	(SPRING? ? OR COIL? ? OR COILED OR COILING) (3N) (LOAD? ? OR LOADING OR LOADED OR COMPRESS?) OR FRICTION? (3N) ASSIST?
S6	0	S1(S)S2:S3(S)S4(S)S5
S7	4305024	COUNT? ? OR COUNTER? ? OR INDICIA
S8	34	S4(5N)S7
S9	26	RD (unique items)
S10	2981417	CLOTHES OR CLOTHING? OR COAT OR COATS OR GARMENT? OR ATTIRE? ? OR APPAREL? OR COSTUM??? OR BLOUSE OR BLOUSES OR SKIRT OR SKIRTS OR DRESS??? OR PANTS OR TROUSERS OR SLACKS OR SUIT OR SUITS
S11	0	S1(S)S2:S3(S)S10(S)S5
S12	9	S1(S)S2:S3(S)S10
S13	6	RD (unique items)
S14	22308	S2:S3(5N) ( WHEEL? ? OR SPINDLE? ? OR COGWHEEL? OR REEL? ? - OR DIAL? ?)
S15	4	S14 (S)S4
S16	1448266	WHEEL? ? OR SPINDLE? ? OR COGWHEEL? OR REEL? ? OR DIAL? ?
S17	44867	S2:S3(5N)S7
S18	0	S16(S)S17(S)S4
S19	5	S16(S)S17(S)S10

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    (c) 1999 PR Newswire Association Inc  
File 610:Business Wire 1999-2006/Aug 10  
    (c) 2006 Business Wire.  
File 810:Business Wire 1986-1999/Feb 28  
    (c) 1999 Business Wire  
File 614:AFP English Wire 1999-2006/Aug 10  
    (c) 2006 Agence France Press  
?

## Cleaner calculator

**Publication number:** US6330969

**Publication date:** 2001-12-18

**Inventor:** VILLARAUT SANDRO (US)

**Applicant:**

**Classification:**

**- International:** G06C3/00; G06M1/08; G06C3/00; G06M1/00; (IPC1-7): G06C3/00

**- european:** G06C3/00; G06M1/08B

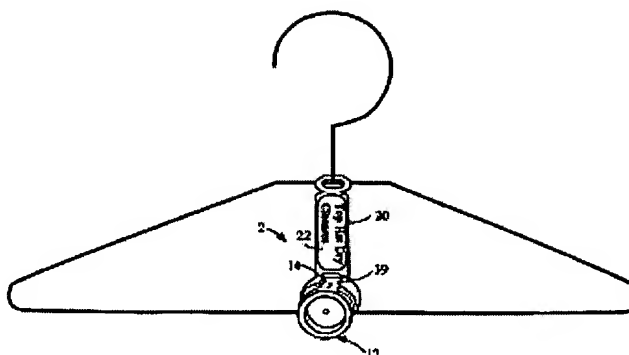
**Application number:** US20000614292 20000712

**Priority number(s):** US20000614292 20000712; US19990143376P 19990712

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### Abstract of US6330969

A cleaner calculator for maintaining a count representative of the number of times that a garment has been worn between dry cleanings. The cleaner calculator includes a tag stem with an attachment section for hanging the cleaner calculator, a promotional label area for promoting the dry cleaner, and a base section. The cleaner calculator also includes a turn-dial indicator rotatably mounted on the base section of the tag stem. An indexing mechanism provides an indexed engagement between the turn-dial indicator and the base section of the tag stem. Count indicia are provided with numbers ranging from three to five as determined by the specific dry cleaner. The count indicia indicate the number of times a piece of clothing has been worn between dry cleanings, and the count indicia can be incremented each time the garment is worn by rotating the turn-dial. In both cases, the device provides a simple, inexpensive and convenient accessory to count the number of times a piece of clothing has been worn between dry cleanings. The cleaner calculator can be hung on a standard clothes hanger, or embedded in the clothes hanger itself for distribution therewith.



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## Marking device

**Publication number:** GB2309115

**Publication date:** 1997-07-16

**Inventor:** COWLES GEMMA

**Applicant:** COWLES GEMMA (GB)

**Classification:**

- international: **A47G25/14; G09F11/23; A47G25/00; G09F11/00;**  
(IPC1-7): G09F11/02; A47G25/14

- european: A47G25/14A; G09F11/23

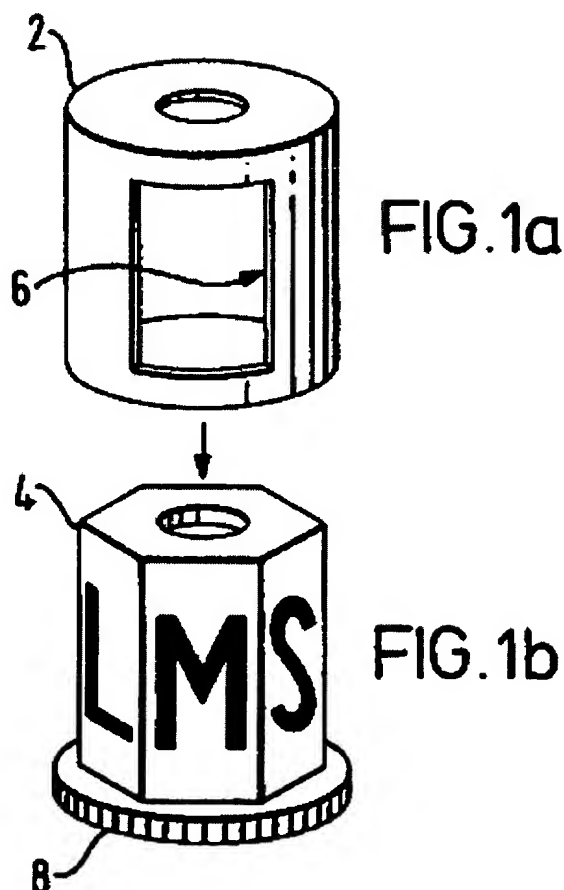
**Application number:** GB19970000420 19970110

**Priority number(s):** GB19960000505 19960111

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### Abstract of GB2309115

A marking device adapted to fit a garment hanger and able to display selectively one or more of a number of indicia within or on the device is described. The device can comprise a covering 2 having an aperture therein to form a window 6 through which the information is displayed, and a body portion 4 within the covering having the indicia thereon. The device is mountable on a garment hanger. The indicia may be changed by rotating the annulus 8.



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## Manual film wind thumbwheel for camera

Publication number: US5614977

Publication date: 1997-03-25

Inventor: SMART DAVID C (US)

Applicant: EASTMAN KODAK CO (US)

Classification:

- international: **G03B1/00; G03B1/62; G03B1/00; (IPC1-7): G03B1/00**

- european: G03B1/00; G03B1/62

Application number: US19960605239 19960209

Priority number(s): US19960605239 19960209

Also published as:

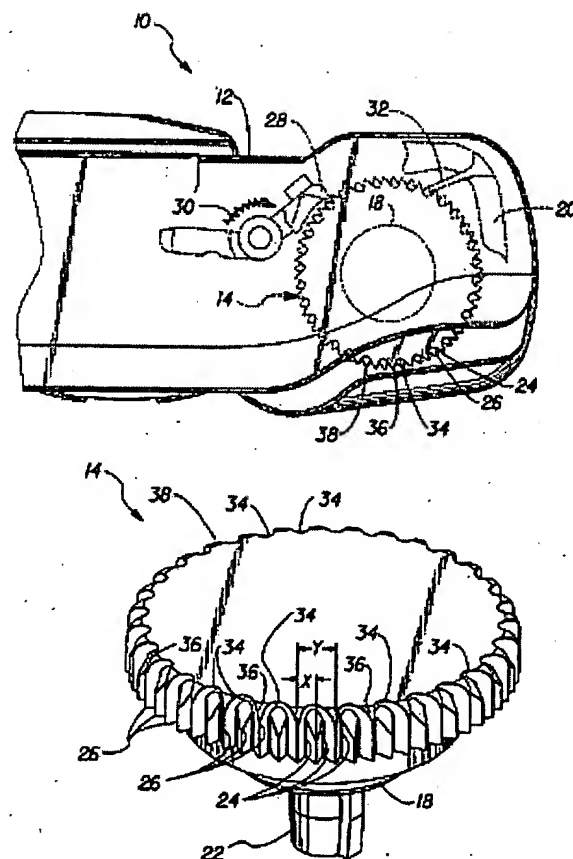


JP9222637 (A)

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### Abstract of US5614977

A manually rotatable film wind thumbwheel for a camera comprising a peripheral series of interdental spaces having a uniform pitch, is characterized in that a continuous series of finger-receiving indentations is located adjacent the peripheral series of interdental spaces and has a uniform pitch which is greater than the uniform pitch of the interdental spaces to permit the finger-receiving indentations to be more easily fingered than the interdental spaces to manually rotate the thumbwheel, whereby the interdental spaces can be used as locking spaces which individually receive a film metering pawl of the camera to arrest the thumbwheel and/or an anti-backup pawl to prevent counter-rotation of the thumbwheel.



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File 347:JAPIO Dec 1976-2005/Dec(Updated 060404)

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File 350:Derwent WPIX 1963-2006/UD=200650

(c) 2006 The Thomson Corporation

Set	Items	Description
---	-----	-----
S1	48	AU=(RUSSO S? OR RUSSO, S?)
S2	1	S1 AND ((CLOTHES OR CLOTHING OR COAT OR COATS) (3N) HANGER?)

2/5/1 (Item 1 from file: 350)  
DIALOG(R) File 350:Derwent WPIX  
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0015333295 - Drawing available

WPI ACC NO: 2005-683547/200570

XRPX Acc No: N2005-560739

Hanger system for clothing , has plastic tab with printed label indicia to indicate details of clothing such as last cleaned date, number of timed worn, and last worn date by rotating plastic spindles or thumb wheels

Patent Assignee: RUSSO S (RUSS-I)

Inventor: RUSSO S

Patent Family (1 patents, 1 countries)

Patent Number	Kind	Date	Application Number	Kind	Date	Update
US 20050224532	A1	20051013	US 2004822241	A	20040409	200570 B

Priority Applications (no., kind, date): US 2004822241 A 20040409

#### Patent Details

Number	Kind	Lan	Pg	Dwg	Filing Notes
US 20050224532	A1	EN	5	1	

#### Alerting Abstract US A1

NOVELTY - The hanger system (10) has a plastic tab (11) with printed label indicia (12) to indicate the details of clothing such as last cleaned date, number of timed worn, and last worn date by rotating the plastic spindles or thumb wheels. The thumb wheel are provided with locking mechanism to prevent accidental alteration of the selected indicia.

USE - For clothing.

ADVANTAGE - Prevents accidental alteration of the selected indicia by locking the rotation of the thumb wheels. Prevents damage of the clothing hung on the hanger . Prevents discoloration or degradation of the recording information by constructing the indicating indicia with moisture-resistant and rust-proof material. Reduces the manufacturing cost of the hanger system.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS - The figure shows a schematic view of the hanger system.

- 10 hanger system
- 11 plastic tab
- 12 printed label indicia
- 14 indicia

Title Terms/Index Terms/Additional Words: HANGER; SYSTEM; CLOTHING; PLASTIC ; TAB; PRINT; LABEL; INDICIA; INDICATE; DETAIL; LAST; CLEAN; DATE; NUMBER ; TIME; WEAR; ROTATING; SPINDLE; THUMB; WHEEL

#### Class Codes

International Classification (Main): A41D-027/22

US Classification, Issued: 223085000

File Segment: EngPI; ;

DWPI Class: P21

?

Set	Items	Description
S1	7	(SLY OR SYLVESTER) (2N) RUSSO
S2	0	S1 AND ((CLOTHES OR CLOTHING OR COAT OR COATS) (3N) HANGER?)
File	9:Business & Industry(R)	Jul/1994-2006/Aug 08 (c) 2006 The Gale Group
File	16:Gale Group PROMT(R)	1990-2006/Aug 08 (c) 2006 The Gale Group
File	160:Gale Group PROMT(R)	1972-1989 (c) 1999 The Gale Group
File	148:Gale Group Trade & Industry DB	1976-2006/Aug 08 (c) 2006 The Gale Group
File	621:Gale Group New Prod. Annou. (R)	1985-2006/Aug 08 (c) 2006 The Gale Group